PIFP Mentor Profile

Name: Christen Lara

How would you like fellows to contact you? Christen.Lara@state.co.us or cell 719-229-0211

CC graduation year: 2008

Other education: None

Current employment position: Unit Manager, Health Informatics Program, Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment

Experience/areas of interest: Public health (cancer, chronic disease, family planning and STD/STI); Health informatics (using health information to improve the health of Coloradans); Social determinants of health/health equity

Why have you chosen to work in (or support) the nonprofit sector? It is important to me to make a positive impact on my community with my time and talent. In particular, I am passionate about creating systems that support families living happy, healthy and stable lives. Public health is just one piece of that broader goal/passion.

Why have you chosen to be a PIFP mentor? I am excited to support growth of smart, talented people finding their passion and developing their career within the non-profit sector. I am also eager to learn what PIFP fellows and organizations are involved in.

What’s your favorite book or movie? Life of Pi

What is something most people would be surprised to know about you? I own a serious (industrial) espresso machine, and I could talk endlessly about coffee.